(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI NAGMANI): (a) and (b) The Government have approved, in principle, amendments to the Constitution to provide reservation to Econmically Backward Classes (EBCs) not covered by the existing Reservation Policy. The Government has also decided to set up a Commission which would elicit the views of the State Government/UTs and others, suggest quantum of reservation as well as criteria for identification of EBCs etc. The Commission will submit its report one year from the date of its appointment. Further action regarding amendments to the Constitution can be taken up only after the proposed Commission submits its report.

(c) Does not arise.

Quota for economically backward classes

1365. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRASEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Constitution is to be amended to provide quota for the economically backward classes;

(b) if so, the criteria for selection in this regard; and

(c) by when the matter is likely to be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI NAGMANI): (a) to (c) The Central Government have approved in prinicple reservation to Economically Backward Classes (EBCs) not covered by the existing Reservation Policy. The Government have also approved the proposal for setting up a Commission which would elicit the views of the State Government/UTs and others, suggest a quantum of reservation as well as criteria for identification of EBCs etc. The Commission will submit its report within one year from the date of its appointment. Further action regarding amendments to the Constitution can be taken up only after the proposed Commission submits its report.